

THE  
HISTORIE OF  
TITANA, AND  
THESEVS.

Very pleasant for age to avoide drow-  
sic thoughts : profitable for youth to  
avoide wanton pastimes : so that to both  
*it brings the minde content.*

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*Written by W. Bettie.*

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LONDON

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Bible, 1635.





TO THE RIGHT VVOR-  
shipfull HVMPHRIE CONISBYE :

*W. B.* wisheth all joy and happinesse in this  
world ; and in the world to come  
*life everlasting.*



Right Worshipfull , ever since my  
childish yeares were adopted with  
that mutuall sense of seeing , and  
imboldned with your favourable  
smiles ; I presumed to survey the  
manifold favours , that I found writ-  
ten in the Margent of your love :

which seeing , I finde my selfe so deeply indebted to  
your Worship , that although I should endeavour my  
selfe , even to the last gaspe , yet were it impossible for  
me to deserve , or make you restitution for the least of  
them : but as heretofore I still presumed on your kind-  
nesse , presenting to your Worship the frownes of  
fortune , so rudely and roughly polished , that I feare  
you will smile with *Alexander* at the crooked deformi-  
ty of *Vulcan* : yet sometimes the mind is as well plea-  
sed to heare of *Pans* , homely fancies , as of *Hercules* re-  
nowned labours ; *Homer* wrote verses as well on *Irus*  
the Beggar , as *Eurymachus* the wooer : *Apollo* gives O-  
racles as well to the poore for his mite , as the rich for

*The Epistle dedicatry.*

his treasure: *Darius* aswell received the rough unpolish'd colors of *Mison*, as the curious pictures of *Apelles*,  
Therefore I beseech you, to shroud this imperfect Pamphlet, vnder your worships patronage: assuring my selfe that your worships learned education, & vertuous disposition, will be a sufficient defence to prote& me from the enuious tongues of the scorning Sycophants, and hoping as *Iupiter* and his Sonne, vouchsafed to lye in *Philemons* poore cottage: so I hope your worship will excuse my slender skill, & accept of my willing mind, and when you haue giuen them a fauorable view, with *Minerva* vnder your golden Target couer a deformed Owle: so hoping for more then yet I haue deserued, I rest, wishing you the happie successe of hearts content, where I leane you to the Heavens disposing.

*Your Worships most dutifull*

*and ever bounden*

**W. BATTIS.**



# THE HISTORIE OF TITANA AND THESEVS.



In Greece, there dwelt a mighty King  
called *Ageus*, who had reigned fiftie  
yeeres; fortunate and successe in all  
his warlike attaypes: that through  
the puissance of his force to his foes,  
and bountifull courtesie to his friends;  
he was feared in hate, and embraced  
in loue. This *Ageus* had one onely  
Sonne, whose name was *Theseus*, who  
was by birth Royall, learned by education, by Nature va-  
lorious, and by Vertues famous: insomuch that it was hard  
to iudge whether his valour, Fortune, or Vertue wonne the  
greatest praise.

This young Prince, being so richly adorne with the rare  
foate and accomplishments of Chivalry, that he did not onely  
enioy his Fathers loue, but also wonne his Subjects hearts:  
at that instant, there liued *Meleagar*, King of *Achaia*, not  
farre distant from the Court of *Ageus*, who had a Daugh-  
ter, a faire young Virgin, whose name was *Titana*, her ver-  
tuous dispositions were such, as might iustly challenge more  
loue than the world could pay her: for her beauty was such,  
as it outshined *Venus* cheekes, her vertue shadowed *Diana's*  
silence, her learning stayned sacred *Pallas*, & her loyalty was  
such,

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such as it quite surpass Penelope: how can the world shew ex-  
toll these excellent gifts of Nature, to the high sphere of their  
deserts, being so exquisitely limitted, and so longingly applauded  
by their Subjects reports, but by committing them to those  
glittering creatures, inclosed within the spangled sea, where  
wale leave them to the Heavens disposing, and turne to  
Meleagar her father: who in his youth, had bene brought up  
with Agæus, and was his Schoolefellow; so as they had  
bene Schoole fellows in their youth, they remained long  
Neighbours in their age, maintaining course and recourse,  
to and fro each others Courts, upholding golden amity, with  
the pillars of brotherly love, which did not onely rejoyce the  
Achæians, but also augment the Grecians love, with such in-  
ordinate and extreme passions, that every yeare, upon the  
Kings Coronation day, the people throughout all *Greece*, and  
*Achaia*, held a generall feast, for the space of forty dayes,  
with Jests and Turnies, with running, Wrestling, Lea-  
ping and dancing, with Bonfires, ringing of Bells, and  
such like pleasant pastimes: not onely to honour their two  
Kings, but also to shew their inward joy, by their outward  
actions: as well to shew their Kings, their royall deserts,  
as their loyalty, being Subjects. When this solemn Tri-  
umph was quite ended, the people returned unto their for-  
mer labour, and wonted course of life, where wale leave  
them and turne to Theseus: who though but young in yeares,  
yet old in experience, though victorious with Hercules, yet not  
so venturous with Phaëton; though upheld with the wings  
of Pegasus, yet not rash in flying with Icarus, but keeping  
lower bounds with Daedalus; hee feared not the Thunder-  
bolts of Jove, nor yet the raging waves of Neptune: well (to  
be briefe:)

Theseus, who had ever since he was able to harbour, ex-  
conceive one amorous thought, mark'd the excellency of Ti-  
tania's behaviour, and the equallitie of her beauty, perswaded  
himselfe that she was matchlesse on earth: in so much, that at  
last

## Titana and Theseus.

last he fell into passionate affections with Titana; and burst out his passions in these tearmes, being alone in a garden, sitting vnder an Orange Tree:

Oh Theseus thou art a Kings sonne, and art applauded by the *Greekes*, to be the only champion of this climate, and wilt thou lue a slave to Venus, confin'd and bard of libertie? no, no, cast off these foolish affections; for Theseus, surely thou dost not loue, these are but instant conceits, sweetned with honey, or fire made with straw, they are not Amors of perfection.

Oh Theseus, flatter not thy selfe, thy heart doth seale the deadly wound of Cupids Dart: Oh, that blinde boy hath pierst it cleane through, like an Indian pearle: yet be cheareful Theseus, what needst thou feare, thou knowest the salve to cure thy amorous corrasie: Titana, is a Kings Daughter, and she is by birth Royall, learned by education, faire by Nature, by vertues famous and by possessions rich: why then what needst thou feare, cast off these despairing follies, and put on assuring sancties, for Cupid neuer shewes his Dart, but Venus sekes the wound: why then Theseus, art thou a Prince, a valiant Souldier, and wilt lue thus perplexed with foolish loue, or a wound giuen by a Boy: expell such captiue follies, as would include thee with ignominious conceits. When he had thus sufficiently explained his passions, & searcht the deepnesse of his still bleeding wound, he takes his farwell of the Orange Tree, that shadowed him from the beames of Phoebus, and returnes to his chamber, where wee leaue him ruminating on his loue, and turne to Titana: Who all this while euen from her infancie, had noted the princely gesture of Theseus, & seeing his face so perfectly featured, and viewing each limb the portraiture of his body so well limned, that she greatly commended Dame Natures art, and excellencie in shadowing such perfection vnder her Fortunes lot: perswading her selfe, that none but Theseus should reape the harvest of her affection: bring thus perplexed with inordinate passions, & possesst with amorous affection, it wrought like a pur-

## The History of

gaston told her, in so much that at last she brake her passions in these tearmes.

Ab Titana, (thou art in loue) (I) with whom: with The-  
seus, (with Theseus) hee is a Kings sonne, why so art thou a  
Kings Daughter: he is famous in birth: thou art vertuous,  
and faire by Nature: he is a Prince, why thou art a Prince-  
esse: thou every way art equivalent with him: why then,  
if thou lovest Theseus, Theseus cannot chuse but loue Ti-  
tana: Ab Titana, thou fond foole, sigh, sob, and lament thee of  
thy follies, art thou so fond to thinke that Theseus being a va-  
lliant warrior, the *Grecians* champion, and heire apparent to  
that invincible King *Ageus*, will looke on thee: no, thou art  
not an object fitting for his expectative eye, though thy vertuous  
qualities be opposite to his valorous accomplishments, yet  
he cannot loue Titana: why: Titana is beautifull, vertuous,  
and rich, I, and after her Fathers decease heire to the Crowns  
of rich *Achaia*: why then Titana, suppress these franticke  
passions, and incline to lowely affections, for doe thou but  
smile, hee cannot chuse but loue: well when he had thus at  
large playd and displayd her passionate affection, she returnes  
to her chamber, to be melancholy, where wale leane her,

Theseus, who had receiv'd such a deadly wound, thought  
it long unill he had some remedy for it, starts him up from the  
embracements of his restlesse bed, and walkes towards the  
Court of *Meleagar*: even at his approach within the Court  
gates, the clocke strikes eight: quoth Theseus, it is too early  
dayes to seeke to speake with Titana yet: He goe walke a  
course or two about the Garden, till the clocke strikes againe,  
and that I thinke will be about the time of Titana's rising: he  
immediately turnes on the backe side of the Court, to enter  
into the Garden, but when he came he found the doore fast  
locked: yet Fortune willing to fauour his presence, would not  
suffer him to returne, but caused him to knocke, the which hee  
did, and immediately it was opened by a Groome of Titana's  
chamber: quoth Theseus, where is your Lady and mistress,

Alring

## Titana and Theseus.

Striking yete quoth the Sonne, and shall please your highnes  
hee his alone at the further end of the Garden, a reading,  
with that Theseus cast by his eye, and espyed his louely para-  
mour: walking in the Garden vnsene of Titana, he stept  
into a grane Arbour, which stood directly opposite against  
her, and not farre distant from her, where he first viewed each  
limit, or proportion of her body: and then beganne hee to  
bzeake his passions: Ah Theseus: (ecce) see how her crim-  
son lips stand like two pilgrimes, to adorne those vermilli-  
on chokes of hers, which like as the Adamant drawes the  
scale, so they draw thee to lone: Say behold her chere, tell eyes,  
how like to vnestimable Diamonds, they glitter and glue  
light to the out chanted Cynthia: now last of all, see how farre  
her swined looks doe surpass the Arabian gold, in golden  
beauty: when he had thus bzeathed out his passions in these  
passionate tearmes; he stands a while commenting in this  
dull perplexity, yet at last begins to prosecute his passions  
with these tearmes,

Theseus, thou seest her excellency, perfection and beautie,  
why then make a mixture with those, and thy intire lone, and  
bzinke them as a physcke potion, either to cure, or kill, and so  
shalt thou be sure to be eased by death, else cured to life, for in  
loue there is life, in hate there is death, but Titana's face, re-  
sembles an Adamants vertue, to draw lone by affection, and  
not kill lone with respecting (and more) it is impossible, that  
she should couer a stinpy heart with a smiling face, so; I know  
the vertue of Venas mollifies the heart of Titana: why then  
Theseus, what needest thou feare, shew thy selfe as balliant as  
Mars to Titana, as thou hast done in former time to Mars,  
and returned victor of the field, when thou wast beset with  
millions of foes, and wilt thou now feare the repulse of a wo-  
man, and being thy lone enemy thou shalt scale the walles, and  
lay battery to the safest: and with that he stepts out of the  
Arbour with a modest behauiour, and full resolution, takes  
her by the hand, and withall dimples her cheekes with a lone.

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## Titana and Theseus.

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her twined lockes doe surpasse the Arabian gold, in golden  
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not kill loue with refection (and more) it is impossible, that  
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the vertue of Venus mollifies the heart of Titana: why then  
Theseus, what needest thou feare, shew thy selfe as ballant as  
Pzince to Titana, as thou hast done in former times to Mars,  
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millions of foes, and wilt thou now feare the repulse of a wo-  
man, and being thy loue twene thou shalt scale the walles, and  
lay battery to the sairest: and with that he stepts out of the  
Arbour with a modest behauiour, and full resolution, takes  
her by the hand, and withall dimples her cheekes with a loue.



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He smile, as loue giues louers direction (now thus begins.)  
Fair Titana, ever since I could conceiue one Amorous  
thought, or cast a wanton eye on beauties perfection, I haue  
remained imburthened with the essence of your beauty, and  
wounded with the vicerous soze of your loue: therefore, faire  
Lady relese me not with disdain, because I appoach with  
courtesie: and as our two aged Fathers liue in peacefull ami-  
ty, so let vs combine a matrimoniall vnitie, it will not onely  
be a comfort to them, but also an eternall ioy to vs: Titana  
resting, and meditating a while, at last bepaints her cheekes  
with a maiden blush, and thus replies.

Why since Theseus, this is very strange to mee, that such in-  
ordinate passions of loue, should so farre ouershow her wozes  
on the sudden, being no stozme nor spying to be the causer:  
therefore Theseus, surely this is not loue, these are but sained  
flations to try simplicity: inluring baites, to catch soules folly in  
wantons snares: so Demophoon was faire by nature, but  
prooued false to Phyllis: Aeneas was a brave man, but as  
false as Almidar: yet were their protested vowes, greater than  
common hearts can conceiue: Therefore Theseus suppress  
thy passions, and leaue to loue Titana, so she cannot loue  
thee againe, this is like the faire Artophylax, that is beauti-  
ous to the eye, but fit for no vse: even so is Titana, full opposite  
against nature: well will she keepe him at the stakkes length,  
and sit her still on the graine banke where hee found her;  
shewoluing her yielding passions with denying frownes.

Theseus, who all this while had mark'd, and blessed each  
limit of her body, and the feature of her face, thought it very  
strange, that nature should endow so faire a face, with so hard  
a heart, such comely limmits, with such peruerse conditions:  
at last thus beganne to prosecute his cause againe in these  
tearmes.

Faire Titana, be not proud of beauties painting, so; it is  
but a Summers flower, the Winter leaues it, and those which  
disdaine in youth, are despised in age: therefore faire Lady,  
make



## Titana and Theseus.

make not a Goddess of beauty, but yield me loue, for loue;  
and let not the destinies cause me to despaire, now in the ver-  
gency of my blooming youth. Titana sitting still on the banke,  
(as it were) not regarding him, thus begins. Theseus I  
commend thine exceeding love, but in this case, I pittie thy  
distresse, and for thy extremity of love thou bearest to me, I  
hold thee recompence, but with contract I dare not promise,  
therefore good Theseus, suppress those passions, which now  
thy minde is perplexed with.

Theseus standing a while, commenting of his dull per-  
plexity, scarcely dared vouchsafe to giue an answer, or de-  
mand a remedie, yet sayd hee, opportunitie neglected are  
signes of folle, therefore hee beganne againe in these  
tearmes.

Titana, the fatall doubts of cruell death, is not so feared  
of me, but I dare extend my life with fortunes fate, to enjoy  
thy loue: why then saie I aby, Alth I am so wounded with  
your loue, yeld to my request, which is within the bounds of  
modestie desired: If I were lasciuious, demanding vncleane  
desires to vse thee as a Concubine, then mightest thou iustly  
be peruerse, & say me nay: or were I a begger, or a base bozine  
baggage of no desert, or for reputation vile, then would I hold it  
villidome: or came I like a Scythian shepheard, with my  
sheepe, hooke on my neck: but coming like a Grecian prince,  
with my scepter in my hand, demanding loue with a chaste  
denotion, me thinkes you should not be so peruerse, to deny so  
kind a demand. Quoth Titana, good Theseus be not so testi-  
ous, for to be short in tearmes, I will not grant thee loue;  
for loue is the only thing I hate, therefore trouble me no more  
with such trifolous speeches. If you please to accompany mee,  
as in former time you haue done, you shall be the welcomest  
man in Greece: but if you reply with such like speeches as  
these, I rather desire your absence, than your presence.

Theseus hearing her still in that froward denying traine,  
quite expell'd hope, and included despaire: and thus beganne

See, which scarcely found beginning. O wretched and despairing wretch, O Locrine, now of Tirana forsaken, worse than the foulest slave in *Achaia*, more hated than the stinkiest earth underneath thy fate, more in bondage than *Tanlian* gally slaves, more vacant on earth, than *Indians* in *Arabia*, and more wretched than *Progne* in her transformation: why dost thou come it then thus metamorphosed being a Kings sonne? (oh with long) with love of that ingratefull *Tirana*, for had I not loved *Tirana*, she had not caused my vntimely death, but measuring my aduerse fortune, with thy peruerse obstinacy, she end my life: and with that hee unbreathed his fatall *Courage*, and sayd thus: Faire Lady, as like the *Camelion*, I haue liued by thy Atry essence of thy love: so like faithfull *Thefeus* by thy hate she die: He sets the point of his sword to his brest. *Tirana* seeing him so desperate, lightly shipt from off the banke where on she sat, and suddenly takes him by the hand which held his sword, and thus beganne.

*Thefeus*, art thou a Prince, and a Kings sonne, a warrior, and *Grecians* Champion: and wilt at a wenches froline ruine thy body, and bring thy aged Fathers gray haire with griefe into his grave, and his carefull head on a restless pillow: remember this, thou art *Deire* apparant unto thy Fathers Croone and kingdom: and by thy well liking, thy Fathers daies are prolonged on earth, but by thy ill liking, with griefe they are soon ended: why then know this brave *Thefeus*, wenches will most deny the thing they most desire, and seeme most peruerse, where most they love: and prove most constant, where they seeme most louering (and so will I) I love, although I feigned a froline, yet detested I to hate, and though my tongue sayd no, my heart protested y. Wherefore I *Thefeus*, impute me not peruerse, for the heavens know, I came to expelle, how prone I haue bene to *Thefeus* love, yet would I not say, *Thefeus* I loathe thee, because thou mightst repute me kindest being a Lady, but the Gods doe know, I haue honoured *Thefeus* with a  
jealous

# Titania and Theseus.

gestious devotion, and y louen Theseus with his dutifull at-  
tention, as Titania coulde perswade, as Theseus heere: there-  
fore sweet loue, thinke not y paine with vngent prayers: but  
with the force of Love.

Theseus noting her behauiour, and hearing such vherpered  
fearmes, and sugred allurements of Titania, which made such  
pleasing harmony in his halfe dead eares, was halfe roushed,  
e wholly reuiued to his former senses: sheathed his fatal blade  
against embracing her in his armes, layd chasterly to her star-  
let lips, with many a sugred kisse he giues assault and winnes  
the Post: yn byrse they suddenly combind, and fully accom-  
plish a matrimoniall contract, so that after many louely im-  
brackings, and pleasing humion topes, (as loue hath many)  
they parted for the time, sofraught with inordinate joy, that it  
is impossible for the capacity of man to make so high as these  
for his rattle rebounding.

Fortune now enuying their goddarts, turnes her wheele,  
and as she has dimpled her cheekes, so now she wrinkled her  
forehead, and vnderleas the desires for my Iohns: there I dwell  
Oenie, which euer were his sacrifice the firstlings of his  
flocke: the which he best assigned of his coyne, and trust to Cal-  
res: to Bacchus the first visting of his wine: and vnto Pal-  
las Olive oyle. and thus honouring the gods of Graine, and  
trust, hee offered frankincense, but at Diana's Altare none  
was offered. hee ouer shot them, the which Diana took in  
high displeasure, and sayd, he shall not scape unpunished, though  
he pass mine Altare vnworshipped, nor daunt of his escape  
vntouchenged, if y be a Goddesse she plague him and his fruite,  
and with that away she flies: and on the next moone, she sent  
a huge ouer growne Boate to Oenies ground, such as she like  
had neuer yet bene seene. This greedy Boate deuoured the  
Coyne and grasse, and rent his mires vnto the ground: and  
not so sufficed but beganne to ouer runne, and deuoure his  
Countrey of Achaia: insomuch that the husbandmen had  
laboured in vaine, he ouer ranne their Lande, shee was

## The History of

Kings of this, may men, Women, and children went daily in  
 danger of this open storme dreadfull Tuskon.  
 In so much, that the people of *Achaia* preferred supplica-  
 tions to *Aegeus*, *Meleagar* and *Theseus*, and many other  
 Kings, Dukes, Lords and Knights, to desire their ayde to  
 conquer this merciless Hogge: the which they all were very  
 willing and affable, but *Theseus*: yet he said y<sup>e</sup>, although he  
 could have wished it no: for the reason that moued him rather  
 to haue stayed at home, than haue gone, was this: he was  
 newly returned from his lone *Titans*, and they had both a-  
 greed to make their Fathers acquainted with their loves on  
 the next day following, which was the day appointed,  
 that this princely knot should meete and accompany each o-  
 ther, to the face of the *Achaians* too: *Theseus* very much  
 discontent with this halow, could haue resigned himselfe sick,  
 and stayed at home, but his heart was so enabled with valour,  
 that it would suffer a paine to take no place: he saying no re-  
 moue, but goe he must, being that renowned King *Melea-  
 gar*, with his royal troopes of valiant Knights, accompanied  
 with his Father *Aegeus* were come, he like *Jason* when he  
 desired to; *Medea*; or *Hercules* to; *Deianira*, or like *Tur-  
 rian*, before he went to his bloody fight, armed and enabled  
 himselfe with valour: which done, he accompanied this  
 princely knot of noble Knights, even to the very brinkes of  
 bloodie warrelike Foyns, where while hee him dursting  
 the willies, and trauis to *Meleagar* the causer of his griefe:  
 who being vpholpen with the wings of Fortune, reaped the  
 plentifull harvest of a renowned encounter, by the winning a  
 famous victory. *Meleagar* with the rest of the valiant Knights,  
 that to his lucke went against this open storme, who being  
 more potent with Fortunes fauour, then impotent with *Dia-  
 na*'s frowne, gaue this Boare his deadly wound: this being  
 done, though old in yeares yet young in conceit, so; with pride  
 and rashness of his fortunate frowne, he presently fell into ano-  
 ther storme, with *Atalan*, *Scholar*'s daughter of *Tegen*.

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and suddenly stepping to the Prince, said thus:

*Oh Lady Acalan!* I can commend mine eyes to thee,  
receivethis my feet  
And of my glory, vouch thou safe,  
partaker for to be.

*And with that gave her the head of the Snake.*

**T**his Lady for the givers sake was as glad in heart, as for  
the gift, and received it very thankfully: but the rest re-  
pined that they such honour had, and armes displayd, that  
all the field might easily see, and heare, their murmuring dis-  
content: Plexippus and Toxey cryed: *Woe,* say we now  
this yeare, we we take the toyle, and thou the honour of our  
Game: no way let that faire face smother of thine beguile thee,  
least be that being voted in thy love, and giving thee our life,  
be our snare to rescue thee: and with that words they take the  
gift away from her, and right of gift from him.

Quoth Melagar, with a frowne and fiers looking counte-  
nance, you Theseus rare, learne this from me, and doe not  
other folks disciples of honour given, for to receive gifts are  
free, and none to be releged: and to places wills are lawes, of  
none to be usurped. Wherefore Plexippus, what difference is  
betweene your threats and deeds, he with this word on trie:  
which that he suddenly strikes him through the breast with his  
Woode speare. Toxey seeing his brother slaine, and doubting  
what way to take, desiring to revenge his brothers blood, yet  
fearing to be murdered as his Brother was before, And a  
travels commencing: Melagar, to dispatch his doubtful  
nuzes, by his last will, gives him his speare for company, and his  
Brother Plexippus, whose blood was hardly cold as yet.

This bloody prospect, bred such a mutiny amongst them,  
that their armes displayd on both sides, insomuch that the time  
beeing, Melagar and Agreus, fell into a still encounter, and  
quickly slaine each other on both sides: and not only the two

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houses of Melagar, and Aegens, but almost all Greece, *Archa*, and *Calidon* was in an uproare, for each tooke armes against other, and being renowned and famous warriors, friends tooke partes, and they beganne to handle, and over-runne each others Dominions.

This disagreement betwene the parents, although it was a heart breaking to these two lovers, *Titana*, and *Theseus*, yet did it not at all disparage their affection, but the greater the miserie, the deeper was the longing for their minde, and by this meane their liberte long continued, and meeting places quite bebar'd, yet love being a private searcher of secrets found a time and opportunitie which gave them place, time, and leave to perle, to play, and display each others minde: When these two lovers came together, they were in tears, and danger to be slied, which caused them one while, to sing, to digne, lament, and grieve; another while, to smile, to laugh, and to joy: and thus they spent the time as pleasantly as distressed lovers could doe, yet they sweare to each other, that their Father's contention should never separate their loves, nor adventures should diminish their affections, but would remaine for euer unto death, in despite of the hateful destinies: having thus recounted each others loves to their hearts content, yet seeing they could not enjoy the full fruition of their loves in Greece nor *Archa*, *Theseus* determined all one as time and opportunity gave him leave, to provide a manner of escape, and to take for the easier carriage: and so transport themselves into *Spain*, to *Tunisia*, and there to live a contented life, not knowne, but as a *Greenian* in night, until he heard of some quiet peace betwixt their Fathers, else by succession to enjoy their inheritance: *Titana* hearing his determinate course, commended highly his wittie device, and sayd thus, Faire love, if thy father *Aegens* should take me with him his prime, it were death, or at least perpetual imprisonment, and as long on the other side, if my father *Melagar*, should take thee for his Dominions, it were the like danger, so that to come

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come into. But if my Father should heare of this contract, his fury would be such, that y<sup>e</sup> forsozen death were too easie for vs both, first you for presumption, then, y<sup>e</sup> for simplicitie, and so we shal bite both on the deell intes byds. wherefore sweete Theseus, make hast with all expedition, & prouide all things fitting for our Voyage, so; delay by danger, and false fortune despite. Theseus being fraught with boundlesse joy and pyght for ward with loues desires, did protest vnto her as one as opportunitie gaue him leaue, he would prouide such necessities as were fitting for their Voyage, so resting vpon this resolution, and night beginning to listen to their complement, after many embracings, payed and repayed kisses, they parted, Theseus hauing taken leaue of his best beloued Titana, returns him backe againe to his fathers Court: and being there arriued, calld vnto him, an ancient seruant of his fathers, whose name was Iunia: this Iunia being a faithfull seruant, and Theseus approued friend, he thought him not lesse then fitting to imploy about this his secret pretence. Theseus reposing confident trust in him, declared the whole volume of his mind vnto him, from the beginning to the end: Iunia, hearing him so fully bent, and determinately resolved on this imperfect course: began to dissuade, & diuert him to the contrarie, alledging diuers instant incontinencies: Theseus being to determinate in his pretence beganne to relect Iunia for his folly in dissuading him, and told him he did not call nor disclose his mind vnto him, to aske his aduice, or to be intercepted by him, but the cause he had him there present was this, he did depose trust vnto him, and impose this secret business on him to prouide a small barke or binnare to transport them into *Spain*, with moneys and certaine Jewells and such like commodities for the easer carriage: which if he could prouide and make ready against such a time, he would reward him royally for his paines.

Iunia hearing this, that there was no perswasion would take effect, or instant examples to the contrarie diuert him,



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and withall respecting the prince's boundless promise began to péele unto him, and in the end promised him to p'pounde all things ready for their Voyage within the space of forty dayes at the farthest. Theseus hearing this direct answere and p'p'ouise of Junia, was exceedingly fraught with joy: insomuch, that to thew his bounty, and bind him unto his promise, he sent him away very richly rewarded, where wale leane him p'pounding for their Voyage, and turne to Melcagar.

Foraine, who had already layd her frame, to destinate, that it viterly brake the vniuersall bands of these two Louers. Fathers combine the League, and almost to the separating of these two, with heart breaking: yet not so content, intending as she had giuen them a tender checke, so now she should giue them a cruell blow; and to bring her presence to be managed with perfection, she layd her plot in his witte.

Melcagar walking privately in his Garden, commenting on his Daughter Titana, brake out his passions in these tearmes; Melcagar, thou hast but one onely Daughter, and she is now about the yeeres of 13. and she is a prince so richly docket, and adorne with the gifts of Nature, so fraught with beauty and vertuous qualitties, that she is not onely a comfort to thee, but also a toy to thy peere Commons: why then, place all thy joy in her perfection, and wth she is now marriageable, p'pounde her a husband that is equiualent with her: when he had thus passioned awhile, he sate him downe vnder a Pannethorne Tree, to meditate on whom he might bestow his Daughter Titana: still at last, he called to minde great Ambrosia King of Portugall, who in former time had bin brought vp together for the space of tenen yeeres in schoole: and knowing this Ambrosia to haue a Sonne, whose name was Pirifanus, who was faire by Nature, royall by birth, by vertues famous, and by possessions rich: presently sends Embassadors to the King of Portugall, to treat of a marriage betwixt his Daughter Titana, and his Sonne Pirifanus. Ambrosia hearing this, was exceedingly fraught with joy, and



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So the Embassadors it was his decree before they came, to have sent to their King Meleagar, concerning the same matter, but as they were so haply come, he told them his navy was ready, and his Sonne Pirismus should along with them to Calidon, and if God so permit him, he would be there with them within forty dayes. The Embassadors having received their answers, and the Prince boorded his Flot, the sparrers hoisted their mainesailles, weighed anchors, and halled into the bryte.

Fortune favouring Theseus best wife, opens the windows of Aeolus, and gives them a full wind, which in a short space arrived them on the shores of Achaia, being so fortunately arrived, they instantly retired to the Court with the young Prince Pirismus, and made report to Meleagar of Ambrosia's answer, and how he had sent his Sonne as a pledge in the meane while. When Meleagar heard that was Ambrosia's Son, hee seemed very angry they did not send him word of their coming, that he might have received him in a more princelike manner: but seeing it was now too late, to recall what was past, he saluted him very submissively, and told him he was very sorry he knew not of his coming, for if he had, he would have met him by the way. Well after these, and such like words, Meleagar takes him about the middle, and leads him into the private Chamber, causing the Nobles to attend them, whereas Titana sate a sorrowing. Quoth Meleagar, young Prince Pirismus, behold there sits mine only Daughter Titana, my chiefest toy, and the originall cause of your stoppage hither, and if you please to acquaint your selfe with her you may. Quoth Pirismus, my noble Father, what your leave else not. Quoth Meleagar, young Prince, you have our leave to use your pleasure. Quoth Pirismus with a lowd obedience, thankes my noble Father, and with that Repurto Titana, takes her by the hand, and thus begins: Fair Lady, it is my Father's Prince, my purchase so bold to be, as to presume a rough unpollish'd touch unto those soft lips of yours.

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yours without offence, my desire is accomplished, offer him  
 my suit so cold. Titana seeing him a stranger, and hearing such  
 inordinate passions proceed from him, was halfe in a mis-  
 doubt that her father had brought him to be a sater in a cause  
 that was already overthowne, and dammages recovered,  
 yet hoping the best, though fearing the worst. With a low cur-  
 tise, she thus replies, noble knight, as your request is small,  
 it is the easier granted; againe, if I should by default refuse it,  
 you might iustly appeach me falsly: with that he giues her a  
 kisse, which she very thankfully receiued, and accompanied  
 him vnto her father, the which did greatly reioyce the king,  
 her father: by this time there was a table furnished with such  
 viands, and dainties, as could at so small a warning be prou-  
 ided. Meleagar sitting downe, caused Pirismus to sit on the  
 same side which he sate on, and Titana to sit on the other side,  
 right opposite against him, because they should take a full view  
 of each other, the which Pirismus did; in so much, that her per-  
 fection digbied so deepe an impression in his heart, that none  
 but Titana could satisfie the Amoz of Pirismus eye: when  
 he was thus solemnely, and sumptuously feasted, and royally  
 entertained; and so entertained that if Ambrosia had beene  
 there himselfe in person, hauing so small warning, they could  
 not recouer him with more triumphant royaltie. After they  
 had thus sufficiently past the daye in sumptuous feasts, and  
 banquets; the king gaue command he should be attended  
 on to his lodging, and all his Lords, knights and Gentlemen,  
 and their followers appointed their lodgings, and attended  
 also: which being done and all departed, Meleagar calls for  
 Titana, and thus brake his mind vnto her.

Titana, I my gray hairees sounde an alarum, and calls mee  
 to my graue: therefore actions measured by time are seldom  
 bitten with repentance: thou art young, and I am old, my  
 white hairees are fading blossomes, and thy fresh colozs blo-  
 wing flowers, mine preparing to die, and thine repairing to  
 liue: therefore (Titana) I take care, and tell thee as a father

hoping

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hoping thou wilt give care, and obey w<sup>th</sup> a Child. The chiefe thing I haue taken care for, and desired, hath bene to see thee happily married before I die, or thou grow old.

Titana, hearing her fathers counsaile, and marking well his words, beganne to seale which way she wolde take, and at last perswaded her selfe in her opinion, as this, that her father had chosen this young Prince Pirifinus to be her spouse: feare to displease her father, yet swearing and vowing not to forsake Theseus, made him this answer.

May it please your Grace, to giue me leaue to speake: Quoth Melcagar, we giue you free leaue. Quoth Titana, why there is no greater bond than duetie, nor stricter law than nature: for often disobedient youth are despised in age, and parents wills are lawes: therefore, rather than by deniall I should be apperched of disobedience, the rest content to loose, although it be the onely thing I hate: if it may please your Highness to appoint whom I shall loue.

Melcagar hearing this interpreted answer of his Daughters, and seeing how light she accounted of Love, began to be very hot and chollerike, and with a frowning countenance, made her this hasty answer.

What Titana, canst thou not loue? looke, both the crystall passion of yonge desires, overcome thee with franticke sorrownesse, or penitish perversenesse: or dost thou thinke thy selfe a young Phoenix, that there is none to equal thee? Alas Titana, take heed, lest high pride, bring low poverty, and young disobedience, aged repentance: the Aris Alpis wasteth not with fire, but withereth with dew, and that which long nourisheth not, hate perissheth.

Well, yeld Titana to thy Fathers perswasions, which may preuent all after perills; thou seest I am old, and full of gray haies, daily walking on the brinke of my graue, ready to fall in euery houre, and thou beest apparant to my Crowne, after my decease shalt succeede in my Kingdom, in more triumphant Robes, then erst thy Father Melcagar did in his youngest yeeres: knowing this, thou being young in yeares,

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and found it more the less of mine own costly possession; it is a burden  
greater trouble, & a heavier burden, to take so much upon the  
the charge of a whole kingdom; to governe and to rule so  
much; for I have not in thee a husband, but the place of a  
king; thou knowest, therefore, while I be alive, I shall not leave my  
nature, royal by birth, by vertues famous, and by possessions  
rich; therefore if thou like Piramus, thou shalt not my content;  
and in loving him, thou shalt have my love, other wise an e-  
uerlasting hate.

Titania standing awhile, called to minde that Theseus had  
purposed to take his voyage to Tuna very shortly, where she  
determined to accompany him; and therefore she thought it  
best as good for her to say she loved him, and hope her fathers  
good will, as say she could not love him, and have his ill will;  
and againe, the thing which, if she should be perverse, and say  
him nay, it might be a prejudice to her fathers anger; to make  
him suspect, and mispasse some other matters, and so make  
more nearer to her; and so to be a hindrance to her departure  
with Theseus; therefore she determined to yield with both;  
and to her fathers desire, and thus bespake him, with a low  
courteise:

My father, I do by your command as a child, hoping to enjoy  
your love and favour: and if Piramus can love Titania, Ti-  
tania will love Piramus; but your father will not, but that  
I yield with love, and not with your persuasions: and please  
you to appoint the nuptiall day; I will be ready to accomplish  
what you please to impose on me.

And nothing she now hath than to come my heart, and shall  
enjoy my love, I'll make thee rich by possessions, and by  
by marriage, I'll give thee a wife with wealth, and Piramus with  
love; I go to see thee toward, and hate to see thee perverse; no  
shall my gray haire enjoy a rest, which long hath bene dis-  
turbed with care; so after these, and many other such like spee-  
ches, she appointed her the nuptiall day, which should be at  
Ambrosia's wedding: Titania, being minded of her true love  
and of Piramus, and of the nuptiall day, thus she said to Theseus

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Theseus, was sore troubled in mind, because her father had appointed the time within so short a space, she was scarcely that Theseus could not provide all things for their voyage so soon: yet bearing it out with a good countenance, she looked pleasantly in the sight of her father, and determined, if things were not ready some enow, she would saigne some excuse to prorogue the time; well for that time they departed, and betoke them to their rest: on the morrow morning, Meleagar was stirring very early, and calls to him his chiefe Admirall, and commands him to provide a Fleet of his chiefeest ships, and furnish them with men and Ordnance, and all things else fitting to receive a voyage; he being no lesse then willing to fulfill the Kings sayfull determination, very speedily prepared all things fitting for their voyage, takes his Embassage of the King, and suddenly boarded the Queene, hoisted maine Sakes, weighed anchors, and away they cut through the deepe, where were leaue them to the favour of the wind, and the Seas.

Meleagar, hauing sent his Embassadors for the King of Portugall, calls his Nobles, and chiefe officers together, and told them, that the tenth day of that present month should be the Suptall day: and bade them proclaim a feast, jousts, and Turnies, and invite all their neigbour princes, with the chiefe of his owne dominions; and that it was Meleagars command and will, the Court gates should stand open, and receive all comers for the space of twenty dayes; as well for the royall entertainment of Ambrosia, as for honour of his Country: his Nobles being no lesse then willing to further his presence, very diligently according to the Kings command, prepared all things in readinesse: where were leaue them attending Ambrosia's coming, and turne to Ticana, who in sight of her new loue Pirismus, seemed no lesse then fraught with the wanton seakes of loue, to lead that forthy sale into a purblind paradise, where in the end she meant to leaue him champing of Cupids bydle: and in her fathers sight she seemed so abundant in her loue, that she almost made

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His gray haire began afresh to bud, and to blome forth yong  
full blossomes againe, in so much that it is impossible to re-  
celue the inward joye, that he receiued by their outward top-  
ping; and though the soze'd herselfe to be toyous and pleasant  
in her fathers and Pirismus presence, yet was she soze'd to  
hatefull melancholly, and hatefull grieke in their absence: well  
it hapned that in ten dayes after, there came newes to Me-  
leagars Court, that Ambrosia was come within two dayes  
sailing to *Calidon*, and by contrary winds soze'd to cast an-  
choy, and lie there for the winds returne. Meleagar hearing  
this newes, caused a Fleet of his best ships to be made rea-  
dy; which being done, he himselfe, and Pirismus with others  
boarded the Fleet, and Titana should haue gone too, but she  
was unwilling to crosse her submissione Loue, with aduerse  
hate, caused a tempestuous storme to rise, insomuch that the  
very sight of Neptunes Crowne cast her into a despairing  
fear, the which her father seeing, caused her to returne to the  
Court againe, and they toke their Voyage towards Am-  
brosia, where they left them to their fortune, and turne  
to Titana againe.

She being so long absent from her loue Theseus, and  
so often presented with her hated Pirismus, like a true Louer  
discontented, desired to walke and sit alone to meditate: on the  
back side of her fathers Palace, there was a very large Gar-  
den, which had doores dooyed to enter in at; this Garden was  
the place where Theseus did use to meete her, which place  
she held most comuent, and sit for her to passion out her  
griefes: when the affections came, she walked all alone into  
the Garden with the wonted place where Theseus was  
wont fall often to embrace her, with many lovely kisses, ho-  
ping that the Gods taking her distresse, would relieve her  
mourne, and as they had bin witnesses to her vowes, so she hope  
they would be fauourers to her presence: and thus walkt she  
a while commenting in these dull perplexities, till at last, her  
passions were so yrgent with her, she could no longer sup-  
press them, but set her foot on a greene bank, and burst out

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her passions in these tearmes.

Ab Titana, thou unfortunate wretch, art thou a Kings Daughter, and liue thus a slave to Cupid? better wert thou a country wench, to enjoy their lovely pleasure: than a courtly mistresse, thus wapt in sorrowd miserie: no w maist thou see the destinies plague thee for thy disobedience. Ab sigh Titana, drawe downe those two chrysell fountains from whence these pearled streames descend, to quash these tender cheekes of thine: loue Pirismus, and in louing him thou louest thy selfe. Ab no, I dare not; Pirismus, no: tis Theseus, and none but Theseus shall haue my true loue. Ab loe that thou art, so fix so sondly; thou knowest Theseus is a Grecian, and Greeke: thy fathers foes: then sticke to thy fathers Election, and loue Pirismus, for in louing him thou shalt enjoy the worlds content. Ab no, I haue made my solempne vowes to Theseus, and will keepe them: tis not worldly content alone that I desire, but Theseus loue, the patron of my meditating thoughts, the Couch of my weary fortunes rest, and the Crowne of my earthly glory.

When shee had thus breathed forth her solitary passions, from the gray Morne, to the red Quen, Zephyr beganne to drawe the melancholy curtaines of portentous night, which caused Titana to depart, who hauing taken her leaue of the Denge and Lemmon Trees, which onely did accompany her all that day, returns to her chamber againe, where she immures her selfe in contemplation.

It hapned that in two dayes after, her father Ambrosia, Pirismus, and all their followers arrived on Calidon Shores: and pageants, Drums and Trumpets were poulded, with sweet perfumes, and Frankincense the streets were thwaited for their passage, which greatly pleased Ambrosia: so that they suddenly arrived at Melagars Court, where they were most sumptuously entertained with banquets, and feasting: which being done, Melagar willing to make knowne by outward shewes, how hee was possess'd with inward doyes: leapt from his chaire of state, and seitch his Daughter Tita-



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na, leading her into Ambrosia's presence by the middle: Titana, seeing her supposed fire, fainted on him a smile, and with-  
all to grace the dimples of her cheeks, she gives them a com-  
ly and modest blush, and with a low and reuerent courtesie,  
she did obeysance to King Ambrosia, the which he seeing, sud-  
denly stept to bestow her in his armes, and lovingly embrac'd  
her with many courteous and royal speeches. Pirismus who  
had all this while mark'd her behauiour, blest his Fortune, and  
thanked the gods for his good success: when he had so done, he  
thought himselfe to haue most right to her, took her aside to  
the farther end of the Room where he sported his blind folly,  
and caught at shadows, yet to his hearts content, and both  
felt Fathers increased joy: but alasse to poore Titana's heart  
breaking, though she fained a smile in her fathers presence,  
yet was the toyed to weep in his absence: Meleagar was so  
fraught with joy, that hee thought every day a yeare that his  
Daughter went unmarried, yet past he it dayes more in ha-  
pyling Ambrosia company, and shewing him the pastimes and  
pleasures that hee chiefly took delight in: the meane time  
he called to him his chiefe Officers and Nobles, and demaunds  
if all things were ready for the Marriage: the which they all  
answered, y. When Meleagar heard that, he was very joy-  
full, and presently makes Ambrosia, Pirismus and Titana ac-  
quainted with his presence (which was this) that on the se-  
uenth day following being the first day of the month, he did  
purpose to accomplish the marriage betwixt Pirismus and Ti-  
tana, the which they all seemed to be very joyfull & glad of, save  
onely Titana, yet she seemed no lesse than joyfull in the sight  
of her Father, but in her chamber she passion'd whole flocks  
of teares from her christall eyes, where weel leaue her to the  
fauour of the gods, and turne to Theodorus.

Who all this while, hath bene very busie, and laborious  
in his carefull affaires, and hauing accomplish'd his business,  
finisht his purpose, and layd the ship ready in the Haven, is  
very desirous to speake with his loue Titana, but his father  
being present, he could find no opportunity sitting to make



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escape forth, which had hatefull melancholly, and much  
that he immured up himself in his chamber, to sollicit sadnes.  
Fortune smiling at his folly, danceth him once again on her in-  
dulgent knee: It hapned at that instant, a noble man of A-  
geus Court, riding through a Forrest, that was some eight  
miles distant from Athens, espied a wilde boare, and  
knowing the King loved the sport of hunting, as well as the  
one halfe of his kingdome, came riding post to the King, and  
made report of his busines: the king hearing him, caused sad-  
den preparation to be made, he having a very faire Pallace  
standing in the midst of the Forrest, determined to go thither  
to bed that night, the which preparation being made, and all  
things ready he calls for Theseus; but he had heard some trol-  
ling of his fathers hunting progresse, and how he was upon  
going, signed himselfe sick, and took physicke: when word  
was brought to the King that Theseus could not goe, he re-  
minded the occasion, they answered he was not well, but  
tooke physicke. The King hearing that he was and loth to delay  
time, and so lose his sport, called his Nobles about him,  
where they mounted their Horses, and rode towards the  
Forrest, where wele leave them to their sport, and turne to  
Titana.

Titana hearing this, had no more hope to enjoy Theseus lone, for the  
last dayes are almost expired, and the Queen is the day appointed,  
which was the next day following, yet being  
the last day of her hope, she went one morning to walk in the  
Garden to seeke her Theseus, bearing a large Engine in her  
hand, determining with her ielfe, that as she had made her  
vowes to Theseus, none should enjoy her lone but Theseus:  
and where she did protest those vowes to Theseus, there she  
meant to sacrifice her blood to the Gods for Theseus sake;  
where wele leave her.

Theseus hearing his father was gone, puts on a disguised  
suite of apparell, and secretly conueys himselfe forth at the  
Court gates by Junia's meane, determining neuer to come  
in againe, sends Junia to the Haven, where the ship lay, and  
caused

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caused him to attend his coming there: which done, he  
walked towards the Court of Melicragar, which was at that  
time neere adjoining to the City of Athens: hee being arri-  
ued at the Court, suddenly makes meanes to enter the gar-  
den: which being entred, hee walkt to the further side, where  
hee was wont to meete his Loue Titania: he was no sooner  
approacht, but he spied her where she sat, leaning her head  
on her hand, as though she had bene asleep: he no lesse then  
glad sees her, began to step hastily to her, but euen as he was  
ready to touch her, he perceiued that she was weeping and la-  
menting very grievously to her selfe: breathing out her pain-  
ours in these tearmes,

My unfortunate Titania, and therefore unfortunate wretch,  
boyne vnder the bestittles displeasure, and therefore trost with  
Fortunes frownes bound to Theseus by loue, therefore pierce  
with care by fate: yet Theseus, Ah sweet Theseus, to dearer  
fate than my selfe is to my selfe, and none shall begotwe me  
of his Elrghis Wale, except this fatall Engine: Ah protestati-  
ons, bowes, and bonds are made, and sealed with the wall of  
Lones of wat lips, it's Theseus, and none but Theseus shall en-  
fey my Loue.

Theseus, seeing her in that dull perplexity, and so meta-  
morphosed, was astonish'd at that sight, and had not the power  
to goe back ward nor for ward, he was constrain'd to such an ex-  
trem: saue he would goe backe to lose the sight of so grievous  
a prospect, and rather goe to her to know the cause, and so he  
redress'd, yet could he do neither, but stood still in a dull extasse,  
half dead with griefe: till at the last she remou'd her head,  
and lookt by after a mournfull fashion, as Phillis lookt to De-  
mophoon; and casting aske her blubbered eyes, she espied  
her Theseus: she rose off the banke whereon she sat making  
her complaints: it was a way her Fatall Engine, took him;  
about the necke and kill him, smiled, and thus bespake him,  
My Theseus, art thou come to prosecute my weale or woe?  
(And thus Theseus) he weale I hope, with heart content I was  
I one: but I pray thee shew heart what's the occasion of these

## Titana and Theseus.

thy preambling passions, thus sob'd with sourring fears: Oh  
 faw Titana, Unlister Fortune hath cast me into a newe per-  
 plexities: for since thou departedst from these sweet embrace-  
 ments of mine, Fortune hath frowned on our pretence: quoth  
 Theseus, how sweet a one: Titana fainted to smile, yet soy-  
 ced to wepe, thus began:

Oh Theseus, my Father sent Ambassadors to Ambrosia  
 King of *Peringall*, to intreat a marriage betwene his Sonne  
 Pirismus, and thy loue Titana; his father being as willing  
 to yeld, as my father to demand, presently sends ouer his son  
 Pirismus, as a pledge of his promise, by the returne of my fa-  
 thers Embassadors, and now is come himselfe to accomplish  
 the match: when my father heard the returne of his Embas-  
 sage, and saw Pirismus, he called me to him, where he opened  
 the whole volume of his pretence, perswading me of the win-  
 ces intire loue, his rare accomplishments, and how happie I  
 was to enjoy the loue of so rich a friend, with many such capti-  
 fall perswasions; in so much that in the end, I did reply this  
 obstinate answer: I could not loue, it was the onely thing  
 that I did hate, with such like words, that at last he fell from  
 kind perswasions, and fell into thundring threats, and in such  
 franticke manner, that I durst no longer withstand him, but  
 gaue consent, and promised to be ready whensoever he plea-  
 sed to appoint the time, the which he was very ioyfull to heare,  
 and appointed the nuptiall to bee the sixteenth day of this  
 moneth, which is the next day following: yet good Theseus  
 account not my behaviour light, though I haue promised loue  
 to two men at once: but know this deare loue, it is but one he  
 bestially to abhor, the other but falsly to delude: for if I  
 should haue stood obstinate and peruerse, denying him; then  
 should I haue had his perpetuall hate, and in hauing his hate  
 like poise Ioue with Argus should still be watcht and lookt  
 after, that I the harder should finde opportunity to depart  
 with thee to *Tunus*: therefore to anoyde suspicion, I made him  
 a fained promise, but still haue Theseus resting at thy com-  
 mand, and obeying as thy hand made, he liues and dies with  
 thee;

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thee; and with that takes him about the necke, and doth so pay and repay him with kisses, that she halfe smothers him. Theseus heard her politicke answer; hearing her witty reply, and seeing her loue so constant, much commended her wit, but more pittied her grieve, desired her to patience, and wishing her not to be so passionate, promised her that every teare that she had for him spent, should from him returne ten thousand ioyes againe: and quoth Theseus I haue provided a ship, and all things necessary for our passage, which lyes ready in the haven, and if you are ready and willing, now there is a fit gate of ~~the~~ *the* *to* transport us from the *Gracian* *shores* to *Tunis*. Quoth Titana, my deare loue, it is the onely thing I desire, throught fire and water to follow thee sweet Theseus. Quoth Theseus, faire Titana, this night about the houre of twelue, I will come and meet thee here, for then I hold it the best time to depart without suspicion of any, therefore sweet heart make no delays, neither for Jewels, or rich array, lest that wee omitting this opportunity, may stay long for the like againe, for I haue all things needfull already provided. Titana hearing these goodly tidings, was exceedingly scaught with boundlesse ioy, thinking that every houre before night came would proue a pære, inasmuch that the time being appointed, and fearefull to bee espied in their private parley, after many lonely enterchanges, and sweet eclipsed lips, they parted, where w<sup>th</sup> I leave them a while continuing on their ensuing iourne, and turne to Pirismus.

And now is providing Robes for the Suptiall, which I doubt will proue his funerall, yet loue being so vrgent with him, it casts a mist before the eyes of his folly, in so much, that he thinks every smile that Titana lends him, is a promise of perfection: but alas! poore soule, that such infancie should rest in such experienced pæres: but tis not to be marvelled at, for Cupid doth greater miracles than this sometimes, for he forceth the bondiane to loue, and blinds the eyes with folly: he makes the young old, and the old become young againe; he cleares the aged eyes, and make the yongfull blind: therefore blaine

## Titana and Theseus.

blame I not Pirifmus, nor yet commend him, but as he deserves, so let fortune attribute her favours unto him, where weele leave him a spectator to his adberse hopes, & turne to Titana.

Who being mindfull of her promise to Theseus, as soon as the Court was quiet, and every man betooke him to his rest, Titana very carefullly had respect that none might see, nor heare her, staid till the dead time of the night, which was much about the houre that Theseus had appointed her to come: she hearing no noise, nor seeing no light throughout all the Court, having a doze that opened into the Garden, she secretly unlocks it, and away shee goes to the wonted place, where she findes Theseus attending her coming, and without any great circumstance took her by the arme, and led her forth at a backe gate that Titana had given him the key of before, where his man Junia stayed his coming with his Gelding: he suddenly mounted on his horses back, took Titana by behind him, and rode to the haven where the ship lay, which was about a mile distant from that place; he no sooner came there, but the partners were ready with their Cock-boats to receive them aboard: where being coucht together in a Cabin, they pass away the time in recounting their old loves, till their man Junia came: he had no sooner boarded the ship, but the partners hoisting their mainesails, weighed anchor, and halled into the deepe, where weele leave them to the favour of the winde and the Seas, and returne to Melcagar, and the Widdergrowne Pirifmus.

The mornie being come, and Phcebus saluted the day with his glorious Beames: Pirifmus starts him from the embraces of his bed, to rouse Titana from her nightly couch; hee being entred her chamber, and saw shee was stirring before him, and sozaken her chamber, he thus began:

What hungry Mound or croaking night Inoigne, durst be so bold as to disturbe my Titana from her rest, till I Pirifmus gave her the Bon Jour.

What louting Pease, or bleating Lamb-kim, durst attempt my Love. Titanas unrest, before that I bestowes the.

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Pyrrhus salutation on her :

What Scythian sheheard durst be so bold, with his hopes  
and cries to fright my Titana from her native slope, before I  
enterchaged a kisse with her, to embrace this Ruptfall  
mojne :

What Indian Hauens, and Grecian Larkes, what Canary-  
Finch, or siluer Swans durst with their harmoniall tunes  
winke my loue from sozth her bed before I came :

But yet me thinks, I feele no hate proceed from sozth their  
chirping blasse, therfore surely thou dost misconceiue them :  
for thy loue is gone to recreate her selfe in the garden this fresh  
mojne : and is espyed by these louing creatures ; and to soojne  
her and her Ruptfall, they all accorde, striking the sweet rela-  
ces of their consojted tunes, to giue the Heauens an Echo of  
their toy, and thy Titana the harmonie of so happy a toy.

When hee had thus passioned a while, he was returning  
sozth of her chamber againe, euen as he was parting, comes  
Meleagar, calling hastily for his Daughter Titana, and mix-  
ting Pirismus, asked him for Titana, who answered, she was  
not in her chamber : Meleagar returning againe enquired,  
and sent about the Court & Garden to sake her, but no newes  
could be heard of her, insomuch that in the end Meleagar be-  
ganne to feare some ill was betided her, and that she had bene  
walking late, and so was taken by some of Ageus men and  
kept prisoner : well this conceit took such effect, that he sends  
Embassadoys to Ageus Court, to demand the question, if  
Titana were taken prisoner by any of his Souldiers, who  
had an answer no : returning againe, told Meleagar their  
answer : they had no sower deliuered their message, but there  
comes a post from Ageus Court, to demand if they had  
not taken Theseus prisoner, she which had his answer deli-  
uered him in the same manner, no : wherupon, he returnes  
againe, Meleagar who thought to haue feasted, and made a  
triumphant Ruptfall ; now casts off his sumptuous robes,  
and put on mourning weeds, and instead of delicious feasting,  
subjaceth mournefull fasting : Pirismus, who led on the bea-  
tie

## Titana and Theseus.

He of Titana, as the Camelion feeds on the aire, was frantick at this sudden extasse. Ambrosia, from his aged eyes shed many teares, to see Meleagar so grieved, and his Sonne so impatient: the guests that were invited, at this sudden change were cast into dumps and dull perplexities, in so much that you might haue past thzough the Court to and fro, and hardly haue heard a word spoken, but haue sene many a weeping eye, which held for the space of foure dayes; the last day he caused proclamation to be made, that whosoever could but bring tidings where Titana is, or what is become of her, he would bestow a liuing on him worth an hundred pound a yere, during his life: this being proclaimed, at that time there was a Sailor that should haue gone in the ship with them, but hee had some hindzance, he being south of the ship when Theseus and Titana boarded it, hee stayed something long, and Theseus and his loue thought it seuen yere till they were put from the shoze, lest fortune should chance to betwray their pretence, he would stay no longer, but commanded them to put off and lanch into the deepe: So that this Sailor was left behind, and hearing this great promise of the King, determined to goe instantly, and informe the King of her departure: but you must note this, hee did it more for the benefit of the King, than to certifie the King: hee being arrested at the Court, made meanes to come to the speech of the King, hee being in presence, did his duty, and as farre as hee could he vnfolded the matter in euery point: the King hearing how it was, and that she was gone with Theseus, beganne to be in an exceeding great rage, in so much that the Sailor wistt himselfe south of his presence, though he neuer had his gift: yet the King being a noble Prince, bestowed his promise on him, and sent him awa- a fopfull man.

Meleager, though hee heard tidings of his Daughter, yet could it no whit perswade him to patience, but rather kindled the hot fire of war against Aegeus for a reuenge, because hee had but one only daughter, and she to be carried away by an enemies sonne. Aegeus missing his sonne Theseus, and hear-



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ring that he was gone with Meleagars daughter Titana, hee swore a bloody revenge on Meleagar: and thus the two fathers fell into bloody passions, in so much that all *Achaia, Calisou,* and *Greece* were up in armes against each other, where while leave them a while, and turne to Pirismus.

W<sup>hen</sup> he hearing of the ungratefull departure of Titana, presently betakes him to his chamber, where he sat orminating on her, and her departure with Theseus, in so much that hee perswaded himselfe neuer to returne to *Portingall* againe, with Titana had deceined him: well, he being as it were halfe frantick, grew carelesse what became of himselfe, and in this discontented humour sitting alone in his chamber, thus breathed out his passions:

*Titanas* love, did lend thee life,  
*Titanas* hate will cause thee death:  
*Titanas* parting, hath sharpt the knife,  
That now must stop thy vitall breath.  
*Titana* farewell, for love I die,  
As here these lines will testifie.

**V**W<sup>hen</sup> he had thus passioned a while, hee dyawes his fatall Engine, and stabs himselfe: when Meleagar and Ambrosia were sitting at dinner, Pirismus was called for, but hee could not be found, in the end they lookt in his chamber, where they found him most grievously murdered: helmes was presently carried to the Kings table, who hearing of this pittious thing, caused him to bee brought into the presence, and sent for Doctors and Surgeons, but all in vaine, for hee was quite gone, and past recovery: they seeing no helpe, caused preparation for the funerall, which, all things being in a readinesse, those neighbour princes which were invited to the supptall, were now intreated to his funerall: these solemne obsequies and funerall being ended every man tooke his leave, and departed: but Ambrosia stayed till the beginning of the next moneth, and when the time came, he departed towards *Portingall*, with a heavier heart than he came  
towards



## Titana and Theseus.

to wards Greece withall, when he had taken his leane of Meleagar, he boarded the Fleet, weighed anchor, and away they cut through the deepe, where wale leane him and turne to Titana and Theseus.

Whom fortune begins to sport her selfe with in their aduersities, so; as she had smiled on them a while, and given them a full winde sitting to transport them to the haven of their desire: so now shee meant to frowne on them, and give them a Calme; when as they lay thus becalmed, fortune who loves to sport herselfe in the variable accidents of loue, brought it thus to passe: certaine Gallies that were Robbers vnder the French King, espied this *Grecian* ship, and thinking to haue some rich praye, made out, and gaue onset, commanding them to yeld: the *Grecians* being calme could not make away from them, yet although too weak, Theseus stoutly denied to be boarded, and fought it out to the utmost: yet in the end they boarded the ship, and bestowed Titana and Theseus vnder the hatches amongst the Sallers, and then rifled the ship of all their rich Jewels: which done, they take the Sallers and carried them into their Gallies, and chained them fast, and made Gallieslaves of them, when they had so done, they take Theseus into one of the Gallies, but the chiefe commanded that they should offer no rigo; at all vnto him, so; hee saw by his behauiour, that hee was of good birth and parentage which made him the moze fauourable vnto him. Theseus desired of the generall that he would entertaine, or suffer Titana to come into the Galle to him, and fars as hee fared, they both desired and intreated, but it could not be granted, which caused poore Titanas eyes all blubbed with teares, and almost dead so; fears and grieffe, but all would not preuaile: the chiefe generall sent halfe a dozen shakerags with the ship and her to *Rome*, where they stript her out of her princely robes and put her into beggers Raggas, and when they came to the sho;e, they gaue her th;e duckats, and turned her off there to a strange Country that she neither knew their language, no; had she any friends there: but with her fortune was so allotted

An

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unto her, for her owne part she takes it very patiently, but when she called to minde her Thecus she wept bitterly, but with there was no remedy, she meant to passe and spend her life in Pilgrimage, where shee leaue her travelling towards Italy, and turne to Thecus.

Whose chiefe solliciter is carefull grieffe, for his poore loue Titana, and is forc'd to liue as a roving Pirate on the Seas: it hapned about five monthes after they chaunc'd to meete with some merchants of Venice, on whom these Pirates gaue on-set, these merchants being well provided, breathed defiance on them, at which these Pirates toke great dislike and discharged vpon them, the merchants seeing that, beganne to play vpon them, Peere after Peere, so long that in the end they ouercame them, and toke two of their Gallies: in which two, Thecus, and Junia were prisoners, fortune fauouring Thecus for Titanaes sake, bare her Target of defence before him, that hee escapt with life, but Junia was slaine: when the merchants had thus riden the Gallies, being nere the coast of Bohemia, sent the Gallie-slaines, and others that were prisoners in the Gallies, to the shoare side, and set them a land to shift for themselves; then had Thecus but halfe a Ducket to buy him meate and drinke, and his clothes were but simple ragges God knowes, yet glad he was that hee was so happily landed, but yet poore Titana, the very thought of her strake him halfe dead, he determined neuer to returne vlesse he met with his loue Titana, but would spend his life in Pilgrimage till death claimes his right: where wee'll leaue him travelling in Germany, and turne to Meleagar.

Who is in the field with Troupes of Souldiers, waging warre against Aegus: but his mother enuying him, for killing her two Brothers, Plexipus and Toxic, had sworn on him to be reuenged, yet studied she a long time, and knew not how to be cruell enough in her reuenge, till in the end, she call'd to minde a bzard that the deities put into the fire, when she lay in child-bed of Meleagar: which bzard was of this merclesse force and power, by the deities charmes, that  
when

## Titana and Theseus.

When this barme was in the fire burnt, Meleager should come & burne to ashes, for the vestimentes spun his fatall thread at his birth day, and vnder put this barme in the fire, to take him the first day of his birth: but Althea, to prevent it, took it so; th againe, and layd it vp very charily, till now she meant to make use of it, as this.

Meleager being in the field against Egeus in hercs and cruell battell, and hauing giuen an ouerthrow to Egeus, there was great reioycing, and Bonfires made throughout all Calidon, with ringing Bells, and such like. Theseus Daughter seeing so much laid on the fire for Meleager, and to helpe the loue they bare to the thing her selfe on: she thought to light the fire was burning to be it also one stroke on him, to shew the hate she bare to him, although she died for company with him herselfe. She cared not, so she might be reuenged on him: after it she thought her selfe, she steps to a chert where she safely had layd this barme, and takes it so; th, and with a scale so murtherous, stretch out her fatall arme, and thye it in the fire, with it being done, she thus began:

Behold ye triple goddesses

Of wrecke, ye hell-hounds three &

Behold you all this furious fact,

And sacrifice of me.

I wrecke and doe against all right,

With death must death be payd:

On mischief mischief must be heapt,

On curse must curse be layd.

Confounded let this wicked house,

With heaped sorrowes be:

Shall *Orme* joy his happy Sonne

In honour for the see:

And *Theseus* mourne bereft of his?

Nay better yet it were,

Thar each with echer company

Inmourning you should beare:

Now brothers ghosts and soules new dead,

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ne I will no more but you  
To scell the solemn obsequies,  
which I prepare as now.

She turned away her face,  
And with a trembling hand,  
Did cast about the fire;  
This death full burning brand.

She turned away her face,  
And with a trembling hand,  
Did cast about the fire;  
This death full burning brand.

**M**eleager being absent, and busied about his warlike at-  
taires, thinks not of his mothers cruelty, but follow-  
ing his wonted occasions with very attentive care, is hapned  
not long after as he was walking alone to recreate himselfe,  
vpon himselfe he felt an extreme paine in his belly. It wast  
more and more, till so much, that he did plainly perceive that  
his bowels were full with flames of secret fire, but yet cried  
he to day, but could it out with a hardlye courage, so grie-  
ued him to die so cowardly without the doing his deed: yet  
death being so predominant, and potent ouer him, he began  
to yeeld, and with sighing sobbs, called on his aged Father,  
which with age lay bed to fouer yeeres before, and then with  
griefe departed; then called he on his Brother, and his sisters,  
and lastly on his mother: by this time his paine increased to ex-  
treame with the fire, that he fell there with againe, and at  
that selfe same instant quite extinguish were they both: and  
as his body burnt to ashes, the glowing coales his spirit from  
him drew. Then dyed Eatep Calidon, both young and  
old did mourne; the Lorde and Commons did lament, and  
married wiues their haire like frimtske rent from off their  
heads, so; griefe of King Meleagers death.

The folke of Calidon not so satisfied, gathered the ashes of his  
consumed body, and entombs them vp, and makes a solemn  
Funerall; nay, the blackest dismall day that ere was known  
in Calidon or Achaia, and on this tombe engraued an Epitaph to this effecte:

Such was not lost but shining ashford was

# Titana and Theseus.

## The Epitaph.

Here lies the famous King of Calidon,  
Which for his fame the worlds mirror won,  
That *Achilles* land can say, though he be gone,  
Foule fall the Author, and of this mothers doome:  
Who passeth by, and chance these lines to read,  
Curse them that caused Meleagar lie here dead.



During this done, every man returns againe to  
his abiding place. *Aegus* hearing that *Mele-*  
*gar* was dead, prouided a great host of men, and  
went both to *Calidon*, and ouer-runs their  
Country, to put their shoulders to the sword,

for this was the space he gets the best part of *Calidon*, and  
kill manye further into the Country, and much blood hath  
been spilt, with a great deale of spoile like to be, but the winter  
being come, he was left the *Widow*, and he now in *Calidon* till  
the next spring, when he would leave them and turne to *Titana*.

So he went, and they all followe him in pilgrimage from  
Country to Country, at every place manner, and in his way  
he foreruns to take and to buy, who as he was travelling  
up into the Country, he thought to come to *Fuelsen*, to be be-  
ing late the purser of the ship that will that night, yet knowing  
not how to get a lodging, to the *Host* no more, late down and  
swept bitterly, as the *Host* late washing her tender cheeks  
with cold *Waters*, the *High Constable* of *Fuelsen* was  
passing by, and when going he sawe sit lamenting, and to in-  
quire her cause, he stucke in manner, pittied her, and de-  
manded of her what she was, and whence; she answered  
that she was a Gentleman and daughter of *Titana*, to be deniaied  
what she would haue from home then, and how she came  
there: she tolde him the story, that there was a young Gentle-  
man of the same City that was in love with her, and she  
with him, but their parents would not give consent, where-  
upon she determined to trauel, to see her felnes into *Spain*,  
where he both had been, and she sure to vniue the solution of

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our loves: as we were passing from *Grace* to *Spain*, we met with pirates that rised and robbed vs of all we had, set me on land in *France*, and carried my love away, I know not whither: and these, all these gruelles am I possesse withall. The high Constable pittied her very much, asked her if she could write & read, she answered y<sup>e</sup>, he demanded if she could sew: she sayd y<sup>e</sup>: quoth the high Constable, wilt thou be content to dwell with me, & teach my children so; a yere or two, or longer as thou shalt thinke good: *Ticars* being weary of travelling, and was ashamed to goe beg, thought she could not doe better than to serve him, till she had gotten money & clothes to her backe; answered him she was very well content: if it pleased him to accept of her service; the which he answered very willingly with all his heart, so he caused her to follow him home; where he instantly clothed her out of rags, and put her on good apparell, which done, she settles herselfe very close ly to her maister, and teacheth his children, that in short time, she grew famous for her womanly chaste, modest & Gentlewoman like behaviour, in so much that she might have had of uers wealthie and rich marriages; and by upon the good report that was spread abroad of her, but still she refused all, would accept of none; yet all this time she never made it knowne, that she took a Kings daughter, but kept for lost, never meaning to reveale it, but still following her busines with careful diligence, where were she knew her, and turne to Theseus.

Willbo being in very poore estate, is entertained by the Landgrave of *Hessen*: and serving him for the space of thre yeres; greatly grew in credit with him: in so much that he would doe nothing without the advice of his man *Peregrino* (so he calld his name to be); the Landgrave taking such an extraordinary liking unto him, (as true to say the truth, he deserved the love of all); never had any Jests & Turnes but his *Peregrino* should be one, & and still did put them to the folk, whatsoever they were that laughed against him, in so much that in few yeres he began to be admired of all; not onely for his rare feats of armes; but also for his Gentleman like ac-

## Tirana and Theseus.

accomplishments, cloist, and modest behaviour: that in the end,  
 the Land-grave began to misdoubt that he came of some noble  
 descent, and by some discontent parted with his Country and  
 went as a pilgrime to seek his fortune: well, it hapned not  
 long after, he took an occasion to walke after supper, in a gar-  
 den that stood on the backe side of his Pallace, with a mean-  
 ing to demand of his man, what Country man he was, and  
 of what Parentage: calls for his Peregrino, and charged  
 him to tell him the truth of a question he meant to ask him.  
 Peregrino untravelling at this sudden charge, answered thus:  
 My Lord, I am as nere as I can I will certifie you  
 with the truth (quoth the Grave) but this then, tell of what  
 Parentage thou comest on, and what was the occasion of thy  
 coming into this Country: for thou toldest me thou wast  
 a Grecian boyne: (quoth Peregrino) my Soueraigne, Lord  
 truly so I am, and my father was a poore Gentleman, and  
 the occasion that I came hither was this: there was a gentle-  
 woman dwelling in Athens whom I dearly loved, and so  
 did she me, I being a younger Brother, and had but small  
 meanes to maintaine her, her friends being rich, would not  
 give consent at all: we having but little hope to enjoy the fru-  
 ction of our loves in Greece, provided a little Barke to tran-  
 sport our selves into Spaine, which being done, as we were  
 passing the Ocean, there came certaine Pirates that were  
 running on the Sea, and took us, and robbed us of all that we  
 had, this done, they sent my love away towards the coast of  
 France, and clapt me into a Galley, where I was sold to  
 mannage an Oare, till I was releas'd by a Venetian Mer-  
 chant, who loved me on the coast of Bohemia, and I purposing  
 to spend my life in pilgrimage, travelling up and down it was  
 my fortune to come hither, where I fortunately hapned into  
 your service, he thus ending his speech wept very bitterly: the  
 Land-grave being very sorry to see him wepe and lament so  
 bitterly, demanded the occasion of his passions, who answered  
 the losse of my love. Quoth the Land-grave, come leaue off  
 this womanish weeping, and come with me, & thou shalt never



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want for any thing so long as I am able to endure: were  
 after these two such like words they departed to their rest.  
 At that instant there was a certain lady the wife of Alphon-  
 sus the English knight, a young gentlewoman and of a noble  
 was Impio, this Gentlewoman came of very good paren-  
 tage, she willingly dwelling, noting the excellency of Peregr-  
 ino's face, presently fell in love with him, but having but  
 small acquaintance, could not tell how to send her mind  
 unto him, but thus she pass the time for his sake behalfe a  
 year, and found find no time nor place sitting for to disclose  
 her love: till at last she watch him when he went to walke  
 in the Garden alone, and lighted this after him, by spying  
 her coming after him, returned againe and met her, giving  
 her the name of the day, and so she came to him againe, so that in  
 the end they past and repast many questions betwixt them  
 in so much that at last they became Gentlewoman and Impio  
 grew to be acquainted with love, and so they were  
 passionate affection no longer but desired to be together  
 a great while that was of them, for the lady said that she had  
 good newes to tell him, he being no less then willing to heare  
 good newes, according to her desire he said do what you  
 suddenly she said to him, where she desired the whole  
 volume of her mind unto him. Peregrino desired her to pass  
 on in her fearnes, wondered much at this sudden acci-  
 dent, or what should be the occasion that should p'swade her  
 to such inordinate feakes, which in his conscience he was  
 the bound of modesty, yet would hee not seeme to fear her  
 for her folly, but mildly perswaded her to be content and let  
 her sell with patience for he was already p'swaded, yet he  
 he humbly thanke her for her good will, but grant her marri-  
 age he could not: yet she would not be so answered, but began  
 to p'osecute it a fresh againe, and like Venus, when she wooed  
 Adonis, arose with him to a kiss, in so much that he was  
 moved of her folly, being away from her, Impio seeing him gone,  
 meant not to let him goe so, but on the next morning she goes  
 to his chamber, and in the like manner begins againe, Pere-

## Titana and Thellus.

[illegible]

# The History of

leane of the Empereor departed, onely the Duke of Brunsuick,  
the Landgrave of Hessen, and their followers.

It happened a short time after, Peregrino being chiefe at-  
tentant on Alphonsus; and Impio on his faire Lady: fortune  
began to twist her whole, and raise an aduerser fate on poore  
submittus Peregrino in this manner: this wicked lust sulphu-  
ring Impio, whose heart was fraught with burning hate, had  
long desired how he might bring him to disgrace, or take his  
life from him, because her self reiect her for her folly: in so  
much that in the end, she agreed this; for to invite him to her  
chamber to dinner, where if she could obtaine love at his  
hands, it was as much as she desired, after while she meant to  
cry out, and say he would ravish her, and so by that meanes  
be reuenged on him: she being profoundly grounded on this  
hellish pretence, thought it long ere she were doing it: yet  
she considered this, that if she should doe so hauing no witnesse  
of it, it was but her paine his no: and she saw that he was so  
in fauour, that he should be belieued before her, therefore to  
bring her matter the better to passe, she hires a young man,  
and giues him fifty crownes to come and sweare against him:  
when she was thus provided of a witnesse, she invites Peregrino  
to come the next day to dinner: yet thinking no hurt, nor  
imagining the mischief she pretended to him, very courte-  
ously thanked her, and sayd her would make bold to trouble  
her: with this answer she returned, and called this young man  
to her, and told him where he should stand to heare her, when  
she called him; and what he should say: well this being done,  
on the next day according to his promise, Peregrino came to  
dinner, where they sat all alone, and were very merry all the  
dinner time: when they had sufficiently allayd the hunger of  
their stomachs, she took along the table her selfe, and had none  
to attend her at all, which made Peregrino muse much thereat,  
when she had thus taken away, a set things from her she came  
to Peregrino, and began her wonted tune againe, and againe,  
but still he denied her, yet would she take it for reward, but  
still importuned him so long, in so much that he began to be  
very

## Titana and Theseus.

very angry with her, and beganne to goe sozth of her chamber: she seeing no hope to obtaine loue of him, she sware she would haue his life: she steps to him againe, and thus besets him. Thou faire faced Perigrino, canst thou deny a wench that comes of gentle blood, no vassall nor runnagate, but bred & bozne in gentility: therefore reade the margent of my browes, and thou shalt see that thy birth is not equiualent with mine; thou knowest how my Lord and Master entertained thee the other day, as a Pilgrime that meant to spend his life in pilgrimage, and wilt thou reiect mee that am a Gentlewoman of good account: no no, Pirigrino; remember thy selfe what thou wert when thou camst hither; and yeld Impio loue. Pirigrino hearing her so insatiable in this vaine attempt, began to wjest away from her, whereupon she cried out, helpe, helpe, he will rauish me: with that steps in the pong man that she had appointed to beare false witness against him, and cries out for helpe too; and suddenly came running in diuers of the Court, and layd hands on him, and newes was carried to the Landgrave, and the Emperour, of Pirigrino's fact: Alphonfus very sorry to heare this tidings, yet would not sake to excuse him, but suffered him to goe to prison, where he lay for the space of six daies, the seuenth, according to the order of their law, he was had in examination; and for the loue Alphonfus bare him, he would heare the triall of the matter himselfe, that he should haue no wrong: but when he heard how evidently the matter was proued against him, by this ronge fellows meanes, that came in, and sware directly against him, it was a fact y was so hatmous, & not to be forgotten, their lawes were so strict against it, when he had thus considered with himselfe, the greatnes of the offence, & the seuerenesse of their Law, he held his tongue and suffered the Law to passe on him, which ouerthrew him, & the sentence of death was pronounc'd against him, that the next market day, there should be in the midst of the market place, a stake erected; to which stake, he must be bound fast with yron chaines, and so done, fire kindled about him, and so burne to death: the law hauing thus pass on him, and the sentence of death pronounc'd against him, they carried him back to

## The History of

the prison, untill the next market day: in the meane while they made ready the stake, and set it in the midst of the market, and when the day came, according to their order, they brought him to the place of execution, where was gathered together two or three hundred to see him executed; he was so beloved that there was many a weeping eie for him, and cried out to the Sheriffes, saying, it was a great pittie so to haue a man should die for so small an offence: yet they could not doe withall, but caused him to be tied to the stake; which done, they layed straw & faggots about him, and were kindling the fire about him; yet did he smile and laugh on the people, and prayed them to pray for him, the which they did all very heartily, he pioused himselfe to die: euen as the fire was kindling, there came riding by a knight of *Athen* by chance, as he was travelling into *France*, espying a multitude of people gathered together, turnes his horse-head, and rides to the place to see the occasion: when he came nere to the place, and seeing a man bound fast to the stake, he began to looke very earnestly on him, in so much that in the end, he beganne to perswade himselfe that it was Theseus: thrusts in amongst the people & thus spake (Prince Theseus) Theseus suddenly lok'd vp, maruelling who it was that knew his name so perfectly, looking on this knight called him to mind, and answered, Horatio. Quoth the knight Horatio, for so was his name: my Noble Liege. what make you here thus bound with chaines so nere your death? Quoth Theseus I haue been falsely accused, and now condemned to die. Horatio intreated the Sheriffes to hold backe the fire a little, whilste he went to the Emperour, to certifie him what he was, for he is a kings son, and falsely accused. The Sheriffes, although they were to haue done the execution by an houre, yet for that lone they boze to him, they pul'd backe the fire: Horatio gallopt to the Emperour, and told him in few words that hee knew not what, to put a Kings Son to death vpon a false accusation; with such & such like words, he roughly bespake the Emperour, without all feare or reuerence: in so much that the Emperour sent some of his chiefe attendants with his priuy Signet to fetch him againe, to  
heare

## Titana and Theseus.

heare the matter more plainly proued : the whilst they went to  
 fetch him, Moratio declared what he was, & the occasion of his  
 departure from his owne Countrey. Quoth Alphonsus, he told  
 me that was the occasion of his departure, but hee told me he  
 was a Gentleman and a songer brother : by this time, the Em-  
 perors men came to the place of execution, where they declared  
 his will, and shewed the Sheriffes the Emperors signet : when  
 they saw the Signet they knew it was the Emperors will he  
 should be brought, the they caused him to be vntied which when  
 the people heard, there was such casting vp of hats, hating and  
 reioycing, as though heauen & earth would haue gon together :  
 when he came to the court he was examined againe of this mat-  
 ter, the which he vtterly denied, whereupon the sellow was cal-  
 led againe, that came in against him, and demanded if this man  
 were guilty or no ; he answered, *Y.* The Emperour would not  
 beleue him so, but would make a farther triall of it, sends pre-  
 sently for a rache, to rache him, till he told the truth : as soone as  
 the rache came, the very feare & sight of the rache, made him fall  
 on his knees, & confesse all : telling how Impio did breake him to  
 doe it, & gaue him fifty Crownes. The Emperour and the Land-  
 grave hearing this sends for Impio, who hearing her knauery  
 was com out, gets her into her chamber, where she suddenly stran-  
 gles her selfe with a Towell : the being found there dead in this  
 manner, they were all very sozry, and desired Theseus to pardon  
 thest hasty & rash iudgement, the which he freely pardoned : this  
 being past, the Emperour & the Landgrave intended to accompany  
 Theseus into *Greece* : & command a Fleet of shippes to be prepared  
 for this voyage : this news being bysted about, Perigrino was  
 a Kings Son of *Greece* : so that in the end it came to Ti-  
 tana's eare, who was halfe perswaded it was her Theseus : well  
 she could not be quiet in mind till she saw him : the next day she  
 made an excuse to go forth & goe to the Emperors court, & as she  
 was entring y court gates she met her Theseus, yet not know-  
 ing him directly, but stood still & look'd on him, & he did the like on  
 her, till at last Theseus said, Titana : when she heard him say so, she  
 flew to him, and with joy she wept, and she like did he, like two  
 Turtle Doves they swartly bld each other, when they had thus

# The History of

And they made it known to the Emperor & Alphonso, that the  
 King of Sicily was dead, & she was the, & the pirates took from  
 him: this he had no admiration, and more in *Fusien* this  
 being past, the King came & all things provided: the Emperor  
 clothes himself very rich array, & causeth him to cover the pa-  
 try, for he is more than the Emperor, the Duke of *Brans-  
 wicke*, the Land-grave of *Hessen*, and many other knights, and  
 Countesses of good account and renowning: which bring a full  
 wind (specially written in *Athen* 21. *Exen* being such a Fleet  
 of good ships coming began to assault the mozt, & sent out a  
 to know to the boat they were, and to know where they came:  
 which returned him this answer: a small pleate your Highness,  
 here is the Emperor of Germany, the Duke of *Branswicke*, the  
 Land-grave of *Hessen*, your young prince *Theus*. *Agus* hear-  
 ing that, he is glad to call any to nation that neither he got on  
 his clock, nor on his hand: but he is not out of clock. *And* *Don*  
*Theus* coming forward in the way, & they in the way *Father*,  
 fall to him on his knees, & King *Agus* & take him up in  
 his arms, & kiss him: but for the Duke, & Duke, he makes  
 them, & he is not so much as he could desire. The  
 Citizens hearing of this coming again, to the to their top, make  
 Bonfires, & Bonfires, & all ringing throughout all the Ci-  
 ty: the Countess of *Hessen* appointed good men & women, to  
 make the Duke, & his gratifying the King to salute him.  
*Agus* hearing of the Countess *Theus* countess says since he de-  
 parted from him, thought now to accept his top, caused pre-  
 paration for the Bonfire, which being done, and twenty voy-  
 fully opened to solemn feasting: the Emperor, the Duke, & the  
 Land-grave with their followers took their leave and departed.  
*Agus* sent for the King that was in the field against the *Achi-*  
*ans* *Colidans*, & all the King's peace, and crowned *Theus*  
 King of that three kingdoms, & being thus done, him unto all  
 things as he hath wish, he gave him a charge of the well go-  
 verning his & his people: he heard of his command: after these  
 things he was in the city, & came into the city, & lay himself at  
*Theus* countess's feet, & being here, he caused his funeral to be  
 made, & his body was buried in the city, & his solemn obsequies  
 being past, *Titans* & *Theus* ended their rules in quiet rest.



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